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Happy NAAMiversary!

Thanks to you, our community, this 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE ONLY AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST has been one of remarkable achievement, amazement, and acceleration. The community has been at the center of NAAM’s 10th year rebirth. Like a lightning bolt, we launched into record-breaking attendance in January 2018 with over 900 people at the opening exhibition of Everyday Black and 2,200 people at our Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebration. Each month thereafter, we have innovated new ways to think big at NAAM.

NAAM is a museum of, for, and by the community. Support from people like you make great things happen at and through NAAM everyday. NAAM is so much more than a museum. We are an important gathering place for connection and reflection, for discovery; a place for social connections and identity-building, and a community resource that makes meaningful impact.

NAAM asserts a leading voice for social justice and racial equity, for educational empowerment, and black art, culture, and history. It is a place where excellence, engagement, and positive energy are valued and celebrated.

Undoubtedly, minds are opened and lives changed because of the work NAAM does. We offer bold and informative exhibitions, relevant and empowering educational programs, prominent community and regional engagement, and we are enhancing our building facilities...all for you.

This is all made possible by your generosity. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, members, and the thousands served annually by the museum, we extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Debbie Bird
Chair, Board of Directors

LaNesha DeBardelaben
Executive Director
• Executive Director’s State of the Museum address at NAAM’s 10th Anniversary Celebration

• Black Joy: Black Futures Month party and other groundbreaking programming in February

• Women in Hip Hop performance night and panel discussion during Women’s History Month

• Unity Luncheon at Benaroya Hall breaks fundraising record

• Juneteenth/Black Music Month performance by African American organist Wayne Marshall with Seattle Symphony

• Was the venue for various private rentals, including weddings, anniversaries, corporate meetings and conferences, memorial services, and community events.
  • Retirement celebration of Seattle Times’ Jerry Large
  • Birthday celebration of Municipal Court Judge Charles Johnson
  • Memorial celebration of beloved community leader DeCharlene Williams

• Big10 Jazz Brunch, featuring a partnership with Black & Tan Hall and the Johnaye Kendrick Quartet

• Brunch Vibes by B. Sidney

• MixxedFit with Randy Ford, a high-energy aerobics fitness series

• Robust array of FREE programs, open to the public: concerts, theatrical productions, film screenings, lectures, and family and children’s programs
**EXHIBITIONS & EXPERIENCES**

- Power to the People: Seattle Chapter of the Black Panther Party at 50
- *Everyday Black,* photographs by Jessica Rycheal and Zorn B. Taylor, guest curated by Davida Ingram and Leilani Lewis
- Lisa Myers Bulmash: *You’re Not From Around Here, Are You?*
- *My Take: No Place Like Here,* created by the 2018 Dr. Carver Gayton Youth Curator Program, under the direction of Stephanie Johnson-Toliver and in partnership with Youth in Focus
- *Bold as Love: Jimi Hendrix at Home* in partnership with Experience Hendrix
- Jeremy Bell: Utopian Blackness
- School Tours and Field trips: Students aged preK-12—many from Title I schools—engaged in compelling educational experiences students in educational experiences
- *AileyCamp,* summer youth program, in partnership with Seattle Theatre Group
- Hosted the historic swearing-in ceremony of Seattle’s first African American female police chief, Carmen Best

**NEW AT NAAM!**

- Kiddie’s Corner in our Reading Room for early childhood visitors and their families
- High quality hardwood floors installed throughout the main gallery spaces, thanks to support from 4Culture and the Norcliffe Foundation
- African American Book Collection available to check-out by NAAM members

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**FRIENDSHIPS & PARTNERSHIPS**

- Elliott Bay Book Company (Write On! Author series)
- Museum of History and Industry (redlining walking tour)
- Seattle Art Museum (Complex Exchange series)
- Frye Art Museum (Black Panther Party programs)
- Artist Trust (workshops for artists)
- LANGSTON (Juneteenth)
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (genealogy)
- Seattle Symphony (NAAM Night in the Arts series; grandparents day)
- Seattle Children’s Theatre (*And In This Corner: Cassius Clay*)
- Tabor100
- Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- American Alliance of Museums (AAM)
- Association of African American Museums (AAAM)

**AWARDS & HONORS**

- With a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), completed our first Museum Assessment Program through the American Alliance of Museums, an important and helpful step toward pre-accreditation
- Selected to participate in the first cohort of the StEPS (Standards and Excellence Program) for African American museums, hosted by the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)
- Secured competitive grant support from a variety of sources, including the Satterberg Foundation and the State of Washington
- Nominated for numerous awards, including the Charles Redd Award (Western Museums Association) and the IMLS National Medal for Museum Service (nominated by U.S. Congressman Adam Smith)
NAAM would like to thank these generous donors for their support from January 1, 2018 - August 31, 2018

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Central District Forum for Arts & Ideas
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